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**BILL TO FURNISH BREATHING-SPOTS IN CROWDED
QUARTERS—VIEWS OF CITY OFFICERS.**
Among the most interesting schemes of public im-
provement which the present municipal government has

market is the proposition to provide a number of all parks or open places throughout the city below one hundred and fifty-five, but particularly among the densely populated tenement districts. Mayor Hewitt and President Beekman, of the Board of Aldermen, are in favor of the matter, and have had Corporal C. C. Connelley, Counsel Locombe, prepare a bill, which, having passed through the Legislature, has just received the Governor's signature and has become a law. It authorizes the local authorities to take the necessary land and apply it for the purposes of public resort. All the heads of the city departments are warmly opposed to the present law creating the larger parks up in Westchester County, and ask its repeal. They look upon that as an extravagant and not immediately necessary, while the small parks will not be extremely costly, and are promptly demanded.

"I am very glad the bill has passed," said the Mayor yesterday. "It ought to have passed. It is the only way to provide at least a few facilities for the people to do the things so far as they are not being done. The working people and the poorer classes, so-called, have a substantial ground of complaint against city in this respect. The crowded parts of the city want to be left almost wholly without breathing places. The provision of such necessities is a proper way to spend money."

"Is it instead of the big Westchester parks that you need this measure?"

"Not at all. I believe that every general law should take care of itself, and that it is unwise to spend money for Pelham Bay property now. But I don't want this measure to depend on the repeal of the acts which require the city to take that park land. If the Legislature

that I use of that bad bargain, we must stand by it as long as we can. These parks will not meet the exigencies of this case. Every one of these parks are intended to be a place of resort for the people, and they are intended to be away from where the needs of that vast body of poor people for whom the small parks are intended. What they require are breathing places near the tenement-houses, where they can go in the evenings and on hot summer days and rest in quietude, with pure air and flowers and trees and other things that are soothing to the eye and the mind. The city has made an opportunity for Henry George. The people feel that they are denied the common necessities of life, and they lend a willing ear to any one who promises them better things. The only way to meet the case is to remove the causes of this discontent. No person who has any human feeling could walk the hot nights through the dark and tenebrous streets and see these people who are crowded together upon the tops of the houses and, indeed, to sleep there, in order to get a breath of fresh air, and then oppose this measure. The only proper remedy is to take the year in the year, the property to be thus employed. That is, in a large sum. For twenty years!

The limit is not fixed. Why should it be? The work could be done thoroughly and it should go on year by year until the people are satisfied. It is not to be a moderate people. It should be done in a rational and moderate spirit, but it should be effectively done. I do not mean the utility of the thing, but the utility of men. The ends looking out on a park ought to be for half as much money as the block would cost."

President Beckman, of the Board of Aldermen, is the only member of the Board who has expressed the opinion that he has received the Legislature's approval.

[illegible]

The Board would use its best judgment as to the action of the squares.

In its ninth section the bill provides that after the sale to the various pieces of ground has been acquired the Department of Public Parks shall be vested with their care, custody and construction, and authorizes the Department to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire for any purpose, such as for comfort, health and destruction of the people, such so many buildings as the said Department of Public Parks, with the concurrence of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, shall determine to be necessary and expedient. The Department is authorized to issue bonds to meet the necessary expenditures under the bill. I desire to call particular attention to the care-

any improvidence or extravagance. No contract can entered into or liability incurred until the plans refer, and in the case of buildings, an estimate of cost, have been prepared by the Park Department and approved by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. The act limits all expenditures to \$1,000,000 in one year.

mountains and with means of holding occasional outdoor parties and picnics, the city has many playgrounds for children. I would also, from time to time, proceed in a conservative way, erect buildings for restaurants, circulating libraries, and hot and cold baths, and lecture-rooms. I would place at the disposal of the public a large number of lecture-rooms, and a permanent provision for the free instruction of the public in the ordinary sanitary rules of everyday life, in the cooking, of which the public are generally ignorant, and in the knowledge of which their general well-being so much depends. The buildings for circulating libraries could be erected in the same way. In this way the city could liberally cooperate with the trustees in giving the widest possible scope to their public health and sanitary measures, and in providing for personal cleanliness and re-
ment to the sick, indispensable to the
not only the public health, but the
Public health are provided for by

I do not wish to convey the idea that all these buildings old or should be immediately erected. Of course the Park Department and the Board of Estimate will provide for the erection of new buildings, and it is in the course in which these various improvements work before us into any extensive construction. The subject is an exceedingly interesting one, and it deserves, as doubtless it will, a close and sympathetic study at the hands of the public."

Women with babies in their arms filled the main hall of Police Headquarters for several hours yesterday. Free vaccination in the Sanitary Bureau was asked for the little ones, and six young physicians worked as rapidly as possible with lancet and virus to meet the demand. Nearly 600 infants were vaccinated during the day. Many women became tired of waiting for the chance to get their children into the room and went away. Dr. J. B. Taylor is thinking

Children men to police stations to give information to children on certain days of the week, in order to relieve the crush at Headquarters. One person suffering from smallpox was removed yesterday from 40 York-st. Dr. Taylor furnished the following record of contagious diseases in the city for two weeks:

May 7.		May 14.	
Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
74.	44.	120.	46.

street level.....	48	11	8	01
.....	30	7	8	5
.....	30	7	8	5
.....	0	1	8	5
.....	246	68	302	70

reference to Chelsea Garden, in regard to which Captain Williams has reported that the place holds an Arcade license which will expire on the 15th of this month. It is quite evident that he is under a mistaken apprehension as to the nature of the resolution adopted by your Board on May 3, 1887. We call his attention to the subject and direct him not to commit any violation of the law by reason of the possession of an alleged license from the previous Board.